

Report on the
**BOARD OF ATHLETIC
TRAINERS**

Montgomery, Alabama



**Department of
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October 15, 2008

Representative Howard Sanderford
Chairman, Sunset Committee
Alabama State House
Montgomery, AL 36130

Dear Representative Sanderford,

This report was prepared to provide information for use by the Sunset Committee in conducting its review and evaluation of the operations of the **Board of Athletic Trainers** in accordance with the *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 41-20-9.

The report contains unaudited information obtained from the management, staff, and records of the **Board of Athletic Trainers**, in addition to information obtained from other sources.

Please contact me if you have any questions concerning this report.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Jones
Chief Examiner

Examiner
Detavious L. Smith

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PROFILE

Purpose/Authority

The Board of Athletic Trainers was created by Act 617, *Acts of Alabama 1993*. The purpose of the board is to license and regulate athletic trainers in Alabama. The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Sections 34-40-1 through 34-40-17 provides the current statutory authority for operation of the board.

<u>Board Characteristics</u>	
Members and Selection	9 appointed members 1 ex officio member <ul style="list-style-type: none">• (6) members are appointed by the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association• (3) members are appointed by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama• (1) member, the President of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association, serves as an ex officio member <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-40-3(a)
Term	4-year staggered terms. No more than three consecutive 4-year terms. The President of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association serves a term that coincides with his or her term of office as president. <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-40-3(a)
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (6) must be licensed athletic trainers with three years experience in Alabama immediately preceding appointment,• Of the athletic trainers, (1) must be a licensed physical therapist,• The athletic trainer members must be citizens of the United States• (3) Must be physicians licensed to practice medicine, and actively engaged in the treatment of athletes and athletic injuries.• The ex officio member must be the President of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association <i>Code of Alabama 1975</i> , Section 34-40-3(a)(b)

Racial Representation	<p>(3) Members of the board must be black. One of the three must be a physician member.</p> <p>Currently, there are (3) black members, (1) female and (2) males. One of the three is a physician member, as required by enabling statutes.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-3(a)</i></p>
Geographical Representation	No statutory requirement
Consumer Representation	No statutory requirement
Other Representation	No statutory requirement
Compensation	<p>Fifty dollars (\$50) for every day actually spent in the performance of their duties</p> <p>Reimbursed according to the state travel policy for other expenses in the same amounts and under the same conditions as state employees.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-5(b)</i></p>
<u>Operations</u>	
Administrator	<p>Leah Taylor, Executive Secretary</p> <p>The board appoints the executive secretary. The board has contracted with Administrative Management Professionals to provide administrative services and manage the Board. The contracted annual amount to Administrative Management Professionals is \$31,500.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-3(e)</i></p>
Location	<p>2 North Jackson Street Suite 305</p> <p>Montgomery, AL 36104</p>
Type of License	470 Licensed Athletic Trainers as of April 15, 2008
Renewal	<p>All licenses expire on December 31. There is a 90-day grace period established by law during which a licensee may renew his or her license without having to file a new application and pay an application fee.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-3(f)</i></p>

Examinations	<p>The board does not administer examinations. The board requires licensees to be certified by the National Athletic Trainers Association Board of Certification (NATABOC). Such certification requires applicants to pass a national exam. The NATABOC examination is given 5 times a year in February, April, June, August, and November.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-5(a)(1)</i></p>
Continuing Education	<p>Athletic Trainers are required to complete and document three (3) continuing education units (CEU) a year to renew their license. According to the board's administrative code, a CEU equals 10 contact hours.</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-8</i> <i>Administrative Code 140-X-.03</i></p>
Reciprocity	<p>The board shall grant, without examination, licensure to any qualified trainer holding a license certificate or registration in another state if that state maintains licensure qualifications which are substantially equivalent to those required in this state, and gives similar reciprocity to licensees of this state.</p> <p>The board has not granted any reciprocal licenses</p> <p><i>Code of Alabama 1975, Section 34-40-5(a)(2)</i></p>
Employees	1
Legal Counsel	Matt Bledsoe Attorney General's Office
Subpoena Power	None in enabling statues
Internet Presence	The board does not have a website.
Attended Board Member Training	No members present
<u>Financial Information</u>	
Source of Funds	Licensing fees
State Treasury	Yes
Unused Funds	Retains unexpended funds.

SIGNIFICANT ITEM

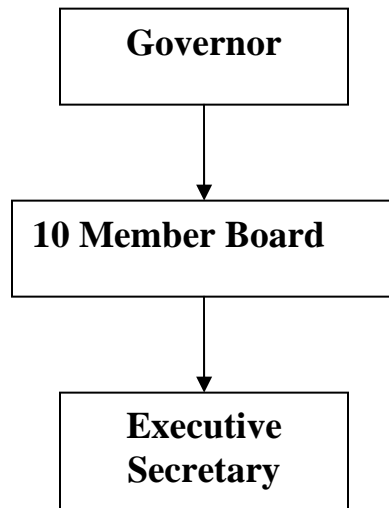
1. **Licensees are concerned about the timeliness of license renewal.** In response to our questionnaire, licensees reported sending payment for license renewal in December but not receiving a renewal card until March. The board takes advantage of the 90 grace period offered to licensees and postpones the issuance of renewal licenses in order to review them all at once. The *Code of Alabama 1975*, Section 34-40-5(b) states that, “Any licensee who fails to renew his or her license within 90 days following expiration of the previous license shall be required to file a new application and pay an application fee with the board.”

STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

All prior findings and significant items have been resolved, with the following exception.

2. **Responses to our questionnaire indicate concern about becoming third party providers for insurance purposes.** This was a significant concern during the last sunset review of the board’s operations, and remains so. One of six members who responded to our questionnaire was concerned about the inability of licensees to receive payment from insurance companies as third party providers. Fifteen of the forty-one licensees responding to our questionnaire also expressed this concern.

ORGANIZATION



PERSONNEL

The board has no direct employees. Since February 2, 2005, the board has contracted with Administrative Management Professionals represented by Leah Taylor, to perform administrative functions and to furnish an executive secretary. The current compensation for this service is \$31,500 annually, consisting of \$2,500 per month, plus \$1,500 for expenses. The firm maintains the board's records and provides the board's administrative services from the office of Tom Coker, an attorney and the employer of Ms. Taylor.

Legal services for the board are provided by the Attorney General's office.

PERFORMANCE CHARACTERISTICS

Total Expenditure per Licensee (2006-2007 fiscal Year) - \$86.00

Number of Persons per Licensee in Alabama and Surrounding States

State	Population	Number of Licensees	Persons per Licensee
Alabama	4,627,851	470	9,846
Florida	18,251,243	1284	14,214
Georgia	9,544,750	791	12,066
Mississippi	2,918,785	253	11,537
Tennessee	6,156,719	897	6,834

Notification to Licensees of Board Decisions to Amend Administrative Rules

The board is subject to the notification procedures provided in the state's Administrative Procedure Act.

Complaint Process and Resolution

During the past four years, the board has received only one complaint concerning one situation. A complaint questionnaire was mailed to the complainant, but no response was received. The board receives has no formal hearing procedures. Complaints are required to be in writing. Anonymous complaints are not accepted.

SMART BUDGETING

As a part of the SMART Budgeting system, each agency is required to submit its goals and objectives to the Department of Finance - the goals to be stated as long-term, multi-year targets to be achieved through accomplishment of objectives, which are single-year targets. The goals and objective should be designed to be measureable so that progress toward their achievement can be measured and reported. The SMART Budgeting system includes an Operations Plan and a Quarterly Performance Report.

The board's 2007 and 2008 SMART Quarterly Performance Reports appear in the Appendices of this report.

The board's performance goals and objectives for the 2007 and 2008 fiscal years and the examiner's comments are presented in the following table.

2007 Operations Plan	
Mission Statement	
To provide an efficient and effective system of licensing athletic trainers (AL Code 34.40-1—34.40.17)	The mission appears consistent with enabling statutes.
Goals	Observations/Conclusions
G 1 – Provide protection to the public through licensure and standards of practice.	This is statement of normal work rather than a performance goal. Performance goals should address how well an activity is carried out and should have a stated long-term target level of performance.
G 2 – Ensure the integrity of the athletic trainer profession through regulation and standards of practice	The goal is a statement of normal work rather than a performance goal. Performance goals should address how well an activity is carried out and should have a stated long-term target level of performance.

2007 Performance Report				
Objective	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Observations/Conclusions
EF1: Increase activity efficiency by utilizing computer technology.	Contract \$	26,400	26,400	There is no stated benchmark or target in this objective. Therefore, there is no way to determine if the objectives were met. The performance indicator does not fit the objective.
QU1: Secure funding by maintaining the number of licenses processed	# of new licenses processed	90	88	There is no stated benchmark or target in this objective. Therefore, there is no way to determine if the objective was met.
QU1: Secure funding by maintaining the number of renewals processed	# of renewals processed	345	380	There is no stated benchmark or target in this objective. Therefore, there is no way to determine if the objective was met.

2008 Operations Plan	
Mission Statement	
To provide an efficient and effective system of licensing athletic trainers (AL Code 34.40-1—34.40.17)	The mission appears consistent with enabling statutes.
Goals	Observations/Conclusions
G 1 – Improve processing time of applications for licensure so that by 2011 letters acknowledging receipt of application and granting temporary status have been sent to 95% of applicants within five days of receiving applications.	Goal appears appropriate.

2008 Performance Report				
Objective	Performance Indicator	Target	Actual	Observations/Conclusions
EF1: Maintain cost per licensee at or below \$110	Budget divided by number of license	105	Year not yet complete	The objective is appropriate. The performance indicator should be \$ rather than a statement of method.
QU1: Send letters acknowledging receipt of applications for licensure and granting temporary status within five days to 85% of applicants.	% acknowledgement letters sent within 5 days	77	Year not yet complete	The objective is appropriate. The performance indicator should be % with no elaboration.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

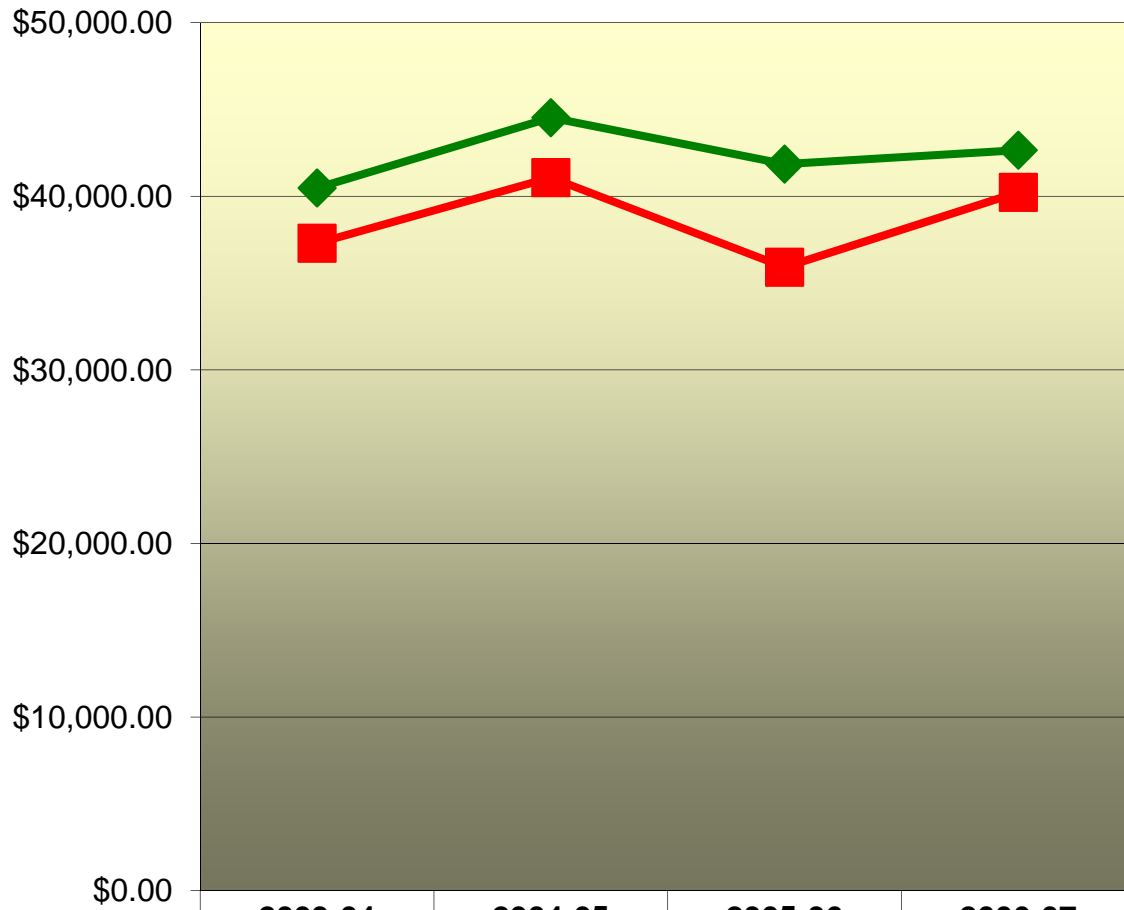
Schedule of Fees

<u>Fee</u>	<u>Authority</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Application and License Fee	34-40-5 (b)	\$175
Renewal Fee	34-40-5 (b)	\$75
Renewal Late Fee	34-40-3 (g)	\$50
Replacement ID Card	34-40-3 (g)	\$35
Replacement Wall Certificate	34-40-3 (g)	\$50
Verification of AL Licensure	34-40-3 (g)	\$25
Copied Materials	Cost recovery	\$.25/page

Schedule of Operating Receipts, Disbursements, and Balances
October 1, 2003 through September 30, 2007

	2006-2007	2005-2006	2004-2005	2003-2004
Receipts				
Licensing Fees	\$ 42,650.00	\$ 41,850.00	\$ 44,525.00	\$ 40,475.00
Disbursements				
Personnel Costs	1,600.00	1,500.00	1,600.00	1,650.00
Employee Benefits	122.39	114.79	122.39	126.29
Travel In-State	1,104.14	995.62	1,018.71	1,491.28
Travel Out of State	5,523.19	4,743.10	6,140.78	4,943.95
Utilities and Communications	2,303.90	2,361.44	2,840.35	2,528.65
Professional Services	27,542.30	25,224.20	27,238.01	25,673.30
Supplies, Materials, and Operating Expenses	2,028.36	969.64	1,113.70	878.36
Grants and Benefits	-	-	1,000.00	-
Total	40,224.28	35,908.79	41,073.94	37,291.83
Excess of Receipts over Disbursements	2,425.72	5,941.21	3,451.06	3,183.17
Cash Balance at Beginning of Year	55,931.12	49,989.91	46,538.85	43,355.68
Cash Balance at End of Year	58,356.84	55,931.12	49,989.91	46,538.85
Reserved for Year-End Obligations	(4,216.00)	(4,377.13)	(6,064.08)	(2,828.09)
Unobligated Cash Balance at End of Year	\$54,140.84	\$51,553.99	\$43,925.83	\$43,710.76

Operating Receipts vs. Operating Disbursements (Chart)



◆ Receipts	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	\$40,475.00	\$44,525.00	\$41,850.00	\$42,650.00
■ Disbursements	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
	\$37,291.83	\$41,073.94	\$35,908.79	\$40,224.28

QUESTIONNAIRES

Board Member Questionnaire

Questionnaires were mailed to all ten board members. Six responded.

Question #1

What are the most significant issues currently facing the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers and how is the Board addressing these issues?

Respondent 1—"3rd party reimbursement. Elevation of the field of athletic training with lobbyist in the State of Alabama."

Respondent 2—"Updating the Policies and Procedures & further defining Board operations regarding regulation of licensed athletic trainers."

Respondent 3—"The need to change wording of definitions in the laws to protect the practice of athletic training. There will be capable hearing to discuss the changes that seem to be causing problems with another group."

Respondent 4—"The updating of the Athletic Training Practice Act."

Respondent 5—"We are currently in the process of language amendment to our practice law."

Respondent 6—"Revision of athletic Training Bill proposing new legislation."

Question #2

What changes to the Board's laws are needed?

Respondent 1—"More minority representation (including gender)."

Respondent 2—"Updating and redefining the scope of practice of licensed athletic trainers."

Respondent 3—"Some changes in definitions are needed to help better the practice."

Respondent 4—"Nothing other than that that is to be updated."

Respondent 5—"We are currently as stated above in the process of amending our law."

Respondent 6—"Updating present licensure act."

Question #3

Is the Board adequately funded?

Yes 6 No 0 Unknown 0 No Opinion 0

Question #4

Is the Board adequately staffed?

Yes 6 No 0 Unknown 0 No Opinion 0

Question #5

What is the purpose of your fiscal year end balance of unobligated funds?

Respondent 1—"Unknown."

Respondent 2—"Remains in the fund to sustain the Board's operations."

Respondent 3—"To sustain the athletic trainers funds for the board operations."

Respondent 4—"Unknown."

Respondent 5—"The purpose of fiscal year end balance of unobligated funds is primary for general board expenses."

Respondent 6—"Sustaining Budget Operation."

Licensee Questionnaire

Questionnaires were mailed to one hundred licensees. Forty-one responded.

Question #1

Do you think of your profession by the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers is necessary to protect public welfare?

Yes 40 No 1 Unknown 0 No Opinion 0

Respondent 19—"There is no doubt in my mind that Regulation is required"

Question #2

Do you think any of the board's laws, rules, and policies are an unnecessary restriction on the practice of your profession?

Yes 7 No 32 Unknown 1 No Opinion 1

Respondent 7—"Untrained individuals without proper training would love to become involved in athletic training-the laws, rules and policies are there to protect athletes."

Respondent 26—"At times, feel that qualifications & education dismissed for politics (law). Board is addressing as things arise as well, which not all professionals are aware of."

Respondent 2—"Under The Current Wording of state practice Acts"

Respondent 13—"Too many Hrs required for Cont. ED, CPR should be good for entire period of what is accepted by American Heart Assoc."

Question #3

Do you think any of the board's requirements are irrelevant to the competent practice of your profession?

Yes 5 No 34 Unknown No Opinion 2

Respondent 14—"Working ability to bill insurance for services. I do not know what the board is doing for the matter."

Respondent 15—"CEUs should not be every year. Follow national certification guidelines of 3 years."

Respondent 37—"Excessive CEU Requirements. Far more CEU's than PT's..Nowhere near the pay. Why?"

Question #4

Are you adequately informed by the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers of changes to and interpretations of board positions, policies, rules, and laws?

Yes 32 No 5 Unknown 2 No Opinion 2

Respondent 26—"Need better communication maybe a biannual newspaper."

Question #5

Has the board performed your licensing and renewal in a timely manner

Yes 32 No 8 Unknown 1 No Opinion 0

Respondent 13—"We do not get our cards until March. That is too long."

Respondent 15—"Pay in Dec, get card in March."

Respondent 36—"This much improved. We used to wait months for a check to be cashed, but now check is cashed promptly & have been getting renewal license in 1st Qtr."

Respondent 37—"Submitted paperwork 2nd week of December...received new card 2nd week of March. Seems pretty slow."

Question #6

Do you consider mandatory continuing education necessary for competent practice?

Yes 39 No 2 Unknown 0 No Opinion

Respondent 7—"Absolutely-as a minimum-Athletic Trainees must keep current to be professionals."

Respondent 24—"But not as many hours as they (& our board) required."

Respondent 37—"Yes but what is required is excessive. Some end up taking courses they have no interest in or use for just so they get the hours. This is excessive time & money out of pocket."

Respondent 38—"Yes but not to the degree that's required-CEU courses are becoming more expensive and it's difficulty to find the required time for so many required hours."

Question #7

Has the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers approved sufficient providers of continuing education to ensure your reasonable access to necessary continuing education hours?

Yes 38 No 1 Unknown No Opinion 2

Question #8

What do you think is the most significant issue(s) currently facing your profession in Alabama and what is the doing to address the issue(s)?

Respondent 1—"We need more athletic trainers in more schools and covering more event, including community recreation. The board regulates the practice of athletic training so that only qualified individuals are in these positions."

Respondent 2—"Reviewing Current Practice Act Wording."

Respondent 3—No Response

Respondent 4—No Response

Respondent 5—"Third party reimbursement. The Board is currently working on the issue."

Respondent 6—"No reimbursement in the clinics."

Respondent 7—"There are still people practicing athletic training in Alabama w/o a license such as coaches, physical therapists and "First Respondee"-the law needs to have more teeth in it to prosecute these individuals."

Respondent 8—"Reimbursement for A.T.C."

Respondent 9—"Insurance re-imbursement."

Respondent 10—"Medicare reimbursement for care given by ATC's as well as direct access of Athlete's."

Respondent 11—"Inforcing that those who practice under the "athletic trainer" name are both certified and licensed."

Respondent 12—"Third party payment."

Respondent 13—"Direct access for trainers (reimbursement by Ins.Co.)"

Respondent 14—“Working ability to bill insurance for services. I do not know what the board is doing for the matter.”

Respondent 15—“ATC vs. PT or third party reimbursement.”

Respondent 16—“The continuing issue for ATC’s to practice rehab under a physicians orders. The board is continuing to fight for our right to practice our profession.”

Respondent 17—“Third party reimbursement. The board is/needs to stay on the law makers to pass the bills introduced to congress.”

Respondent 18—“The most significant issue is practice regulation andto be recognized by 3rd party reimbursement

Respondent 19—“Strengthening our Practice Act is crucial! The Board is supporting this process.”

Respondent 20—“Finding a way to require ATC’s secondary schools.”

Respondent 21—“Non certified people acting as an ATC and performing duties that they are not qualified to do. Board needs to seek out and investigate these matters.”

Respondent 22—No Response

Respondent 23—“Third Party reimbursment for Athletic Trainers. Lobbying”

Respondent 24—No Response

Respondent 25—“3rd party reimbursement”

Respondent 26—No Response

Respondent 27—“NATA vs APTA.”

Respondent 28—“Fostering relationships with other allied health professions. Not sure what the Board is doing.”

Respondent 29—“3rd party reimbursement.”

Respondent 30—No Response

Respondent 31—“Not sure. Newly certified so Im not well versed in the issues yet.”

Respondent 32—“ATC & reimbursement.”

Respondent 33—"Physical Therapy practice and not being able to perform our duties we were taught."

Respondent 34—"Fair pay & reimbursement for the services we provide."

Respondent 35—"People/Students misleading athletic trainers/coaches about credentials because they are not truly "athletic trainers" but do more than a first aid responder."

Respondent 36—"I have already addressed my most significant issue. What are they doing about it...probably trying to figure out what else they can require us to do."

Respondent 37—"Mandatory coverage of games (high school, college) by an ACC. Not enough in this area."

Respondent 38—No Response

Respondent 39—No Response

Respondent 40—No Response

Respondent 41—No Response

Question #9

Do you think the board and its staff are satisfactorily performing their duties?

Yes 34 No 1 Unknown 4 No Opinion 2

Respondent 7—"It appears they are doing a fine job-all of my interactions with them have been very satisfactory."

Respondent 15—"Too much paperwork, too slow to get cards."

Respondent 19—"They spend countless hours working on our behalf."

Question #10

Has any member of the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers or its staff asked for money (other than normal fees), services, or any other thing of value in return for performing a board service for you?

Yes 0 No 42 Unknown 0 No Opinion 0

APPENDICES

SMART PERFORMANCE REPORT

Smart Quarterly Performance Report											
Fiscal Year: 2007											
Agency: 358 Athletic Trainers, Alabama Board of											
Org:											
Program: 653 PRO AND OCCU LICENSING AND REG											
Activity:											
Performance Measures		First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter		Annual	
Workload/Cost Factor	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual
WC1: Applications are expected to remain constant or increase slightly	#	35	52	15	10	20	19	20	7	90	88
WC2: Renewals are expected to remain constant or decrease slightly	#	0	0	345	380	0	0	0	0	345	380
Spending	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual
SP1: No increase in spending beyond what is already budgeted	Budget	12,450	7,273	9,450	12,284	16,350	12,244	9,750	10,312	48,000	42,113
Staffing	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual
ST1: No increase in staffing beyond one part-time contract employee	Contract \$	6,000	6,000	6,600	6,600	6,900	6,900	6,900	6,900	26,400	26,400
Efficiency	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual
EF1: Increase activity efficiency by utilizing computer technology	Contract \$	6,000.0	6,000	6,600.0	6,600	6,900.0	6,900	6,900.0	6,900	26,400	26,400
Quality	Performance Indicator	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual	Projected	Actual
QU1: Secure funding by maintaining the number of licenses processed	Number of new licenses processed	35	52	15	10	20	19	20	7	90	88
QU2: Secure funding by maintaining the number of renewals processed	Number of renewals processed	0	0	345	380	0	0	0	0	345	380

How have policy decisions and budget determinations made by the governor and the legislature in the fiscal year 2006-07 affected your agency in meeting its desired accomplishments and services?
test
What administrative improvements did your agency make in fiscal year 2006-07 and what potential improvements do you foresee for future years? Include suggested changes in legislation or administrative procedures which would aid your agency in these improvements.
test

FY 08 SMART Quarterly Performance Report

Basic Agency

Agency: 358 - Athletic Trainers, Alabama Board of				Program: 653 - PRO AND OCCU LICENSING AND REG							
Organization: -				Activity: -							
Key Goal:											
Goal 1	Improve processing time of Applications for Licensure so that by 2011 letters acknowledging receipt of application and granting temporary status have been sent to 95 % of Applicants within five days of receiving applications.								Governor's Priority:		6
Objectives and Quarterly Targets:											
Performance Measures		First Quarter		Second Quarter		Third Quarter		Fourth Quarter		Annual	
Objectives	Unit of Measure	Target	Actual	Target	Actual *	Target	Actual *	Target	Actual *	Target	Actual *
(O1-Quality) Send letters acknowledging receipt of applications for licensure and granting temporary status within five days to 85% of applicants.	% acknowledgment letters sent within 5 days	34	19	9	0	17	0	17	0	77	0
(O2-Efficiency) Maintain cost per licensee at or below \$110	Budget divided by number of licensees	107.87	94.12	105.49	0	105.03	0	100.63	0	105.00	0
* Actual performance data is not currently available for this quarter.											

Item #	Notes
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O1-	Received 24 applications for licensure during first quarter; 19 (79%) received acknowledgement letters within 5 days.
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STATUTORY AUTHORITY

CHAPTER 40. ATHLETIC TRAINERS.

§ 34-40-1. Short title.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Alabama Athletic Trainers Licensure Act."

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 1.)

§ 34-40-2. Definitions.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

As used in this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

- (1) Apprentice athletic trainer. A person who assists in the duties usually performed by an athletic trainer and who works under the direct supervision of a licensed athletic trainer.
- (2) Athlete. A person who participates in an athletic activity being conducted by an educational institution, professional athletic organization, or a board sanctioned amateur athletic organization.
- (3) Athletic injury. An injury received by an athlete as a result of the preparation or participation of the athlete in an athletic activity.
- (4) Athletic trainer. A person licensed by the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers as an athletic trainer and who practices athletic training on an athlete under the direction or referral, or both, of a licensed physician after meeting the requirements of this chapter and rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this chapter.
- (5) Athletic training practice. Practice by an athletic trainer of any of the following:
 - a. Under physician direction or referral, or both, the prevention of athletic injuries.
 - b. The organization and administration of athletic training programs.
 - c. Athletic counseling and guidance and the education of athletes regarding athletics and athletic training.
 - d. Under physician direction and referral, the rehabilitation and reconditioning of an athlete.
 - e. Under physician supervision, the evaluation, the recognition, and management of athletic injuries.
- (6) Board. The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers.
- (7) Physical therapist. A physical therapist licensed by the Alabama State Board of Physical Therapy.
- (8) Physician. A physician licensed by the Medical Licensure Commission of

Alabama.

(9) Physician supervision. A licensed athletic trainer acting under the supervision of a physician if:

a. The activities are undertaken pursuant to a verbal or written order of the physician who has evaluated the injured athlete; and

b. The activity is undertaken in accordance with a written protocol signed by the physician which describes the athletic injury encountered and directs appropriate medical interventions consistent with the qualification, training, and experience of the licensed athletic trainer. The State Board of Medical Examiners shall establish minimum medical criteria for any protocol used by athletic trainers and shall specify those conditions and circumstances which require referral to the physician for further evaluation.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 2.)

§ 34-40-3. Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers -- Appointment of members; annual meeting; terms; duties.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

(a) The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers shall be composed of nine members who shall serve four-year terms. Members may not serve more than three consecutive four-year terms. Three members shall be Black, one of whom shall be a physician member. The composition of the board shall be as follows:

(1) Six members appointed by the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association in accordance with subsection (b) below, one of whom shall be an athletic trainer who is a licensed physical therapist.

(2) Three physicians licensed to practice medicine actively engaged in the treatment of athletes and athletic injuries appointed by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama.

(3) The President of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association who shall serve as an ex officio member of the board and whose term of office shall be yearly to coincide with his or her term as President of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association.

(b) The six athletic trainers shall be appointed by the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association. The association shall conduct an annual meeting at which all athletic trainers holding a current license as identified under this chapter shall have the right to attend, nominate, and vote. The association shall regulate and prescribe the date, hour, and place of the meeting, the method of nomination, and the manner of voting. At least 30 days prior to the meeting, the association shall mail notices to each current licensee at the address shown on the current registration notifying of the exact date, hour, and place of the meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and of the right to attend and vote. To qualify as a board member pursuant to this subsection, a person shall be a citizen of the United States and have acted as an athletic trainer for three years within this state immediately preceding appointment.

(c) In making the initial appointments, the Alabama Athletic Trainers Association shall appoint one athletic trainer whose term will expire in 1994, two athletic trainers

whose terms will expire in 1995, and one athletic trainer whose term will expire in 1996, and two athletic trainers whose terms will expire in 1997. The Medical Association of the State of Alabama shall appoint one physician whose term will expire in 1994, one physician whose term will expire in 1995, and one physician whose term will expire in 1996. All appointments expire on December 31 of the year specified.

(d) Each appointee to the board shall qualify by taking an oath of office within 15 days from the date of the appointment. In the event of death, resignation, or removal of any member, except for physician members, the vacancy of the unexpired term shall be filled by the board.

(e) The board shall elect a chair, a vice-chair, and secretary from its members for a term of one year and may appoint any committees and formulate any rules it considers necessary to carry out its duties pursuant to this chapter. The board shall meet at least twice each year. Additional meetings may be held on the call of the chair or at the written request of any two members of the board. The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the board. The board may promulgate and adopt rules and regulations consistent with this chapter which are necessary for the performance of its duties. The board may employ an executive secretary and any officers and employees as may be necessary to carry out the duties of the board. The State Board of Medical Examiners and the Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers shall jointly approve any rule, regulation, or policy that interprets, explains, or enumerates the permissible acts, functions, or services rendered by an athletic trainer or apprentice athletic trainer as those acts, functions, and services are defined in Section 34-40-2. Any rule, regulation, or policy adopted in violation of this requirement is invalid. The board shall prescribe forms for license applications, license certificate, license renewal, verification of license, continuing education verification, and any forms for information required from licensees to carry out the duties of the board. The board shall adopt an official seal and a license certificate of suitable design.

(f) Members of the board shall receive fifty dollars (\$50) for every day actually spent in the performance of their duties and in addition thereto shall be reimbursed according to the state travel policy for other expenses in the same amounts and under the same conditions as state employees are reimbursed.

(g) It shall be the duty of the board to pass upon the qualifications of applicants for licensure as an athletic trainer, and to issue licenses and annual renewals to athletic trainers. The board shall be responsible for fixing fees for such applications, licenses, renewals, verification of licensure, replacement of licenses, name changes on licensees, publication fees, or other administration fees deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 3; Acts 1997, No. 97-597, p. 1051, § 1.)

§ 34-40-4. Unauthorized use of title.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

No person shall use the title "athletic trainer", "certified athletic trainer", or "licensed athletic trainer", or use the letters "LAT", "ATC", or "AT", or any other facsimile thereof, whether or not compensation is received or expected, unless the person is licensed as an athletic trainer in this state pursuant to this chapter.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 4.)

§ 34-40-5. Requirements for license; application; fees.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

(a) Any person seeking licensure as an athletic trainer shall meet at least one of the following requirements:

(1) Satisfactory completion of all of the National Athletic Trainers' Association (NATA) Board of Certification, Inc., qualifications and certification as an athletic trainer in good standing by the National Athletic Trainers' Association Board of Certification, Inc.

(2) Licensure by reciprocity. The board shall grant, without examination, licensure to any qualified trainer holding a license certificate or registration in another state if that state maintains licensure qualifications which are substantially equivalent to those required in this state, and gives similar reciprocity to licensees of this state.

(b) Any person desiring to be licensed, desiring a renewal of an existing license, desiring verification of licensure, reinstatement of a license, replacement of a license, or name changes for a licensee as an athletic trainer in this state shall make and file with the board, not less than 30 days prior to any regular meeting thereof, a written application on a form as prescribed by the board. The application shall be accompanied by the payment of a fee, as set by the board, to include publication fees or other administrative fees deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter, in accordance with subsection (g) of Section 34-40-3. Any licensee who fails to renew his or her license within 90 days following expiration of the previous license shall be required to file a new application and pay an application fee with the board.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 5; Acts 1997, No. 97-153, p. 195, § 3; Act 2005-91, p. 142, § 3.)

§ 34-40-6. Treatment of injuries.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

An athletic trainer, functioning under the supervision of a physician, may use therapeutic exercise and modalities for the treatment of athletic injuries for which he or she has received appropriate training or education.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 6.)

§ 34-40-7. Time restrictions on certification.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

(a) Any person actively engaged as an athletic trainer on May 13, 1993, shall be issued a license certificate if the athletic trainer submits proof of three years of experience as an athletic trainer within the preceding five-year period, receives approval by the board, and pays the license certificate fee as determined by the board. For the purpose of this section, a person is actively engaged as an athletic trainer if the person is employed

on a salaried basis for the duration of the institution's school year, or the length of the athletic organization's season, and was hired and performs the duties of an athletic trainer as the major responsibility of employment. One year from May 13, 1993, application for a license certificate pursuant to this subsection shall not be permitted.

(b) The board shall grant licensure to any physical therapist who has satisfactorily completed all of the American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) qualifications as a board certified sports physical therapist (SCS). Three years from May 13, 1993, application for a licensure certificate pursuant to this subsection shall not be permitted.

(c) The board may grant licensure to a licensed physical therapist who submits experience and educational training as an athletic trainer within the preceding five-year period if the person performed duties as an athletic trainer as a significant responsibility. One year from May 13, 1993, application for licensure pursuant to this subsection shall not be permitted.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 7.)

§ 34-40-8. Expiration of licenses; continuing education requirements.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

All licenses issued by the board to athletic trainers shall expire on the last day of December of the year next succeeding the issuance thereof. The license may be renewed on payment of a fee, fixed by the board, completion of continuing education, and current licensee information, as may be needed. The board shall adopt a program of continuing education for its licensees. The successful completion of the annual continuing education program shall be a requisite for the renewal of licenses issued pursuant to this chapter.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 8; Acts 1997, No. 97-597, p. 1051, § 1.)

C.J.S. Physicians, Surgeons, and other Health-Care Providers §§ 19, 21-24.

§ 34-40-9. Professions and occupations not affected; chapter not applicable to certain persons.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

(a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as preventing or restricting any of the following persons from engaging in the profession or occupation for which they are licensed, certified, or registered in Alabama as follows:

- (1) Physicians and surgeons licensed by the Medical Licensure Commission of Alabama.
- (2) Dentists licensed by the State Board of Dental Examiners.
- (3) Optometrists licensed by the State Board of Optometry.
- (4) Nurses licensed by the Alabama Board of Nursing.
- (5) Chiropractors licensed by the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners.
- (6) Podiatrists licensed by the State Board of Podiatry.
- (7) Physical therapists licensed by the State Board of Physical Therapy.
- (8) Occupational therapists licensed by the State Board of Occupational Therapy.
- (9) Emergency medical technicians licensed by the State Department of Public

Health.

(b) This chapter shall not apply to the following persons:

(1) Coaches and physical education instructors in the performance of their duties.

(2) Apprentice athletic trainers who confine themselves to the duties prescribed in this chapter.

(3) Athletic trainers from other nations, states, or territories performing their duties for their respective teams or organizations and only during the course of their team's or organization's stay in this state.

(4) A person who performs any of the services set forth in this chapter as long as the person does not violate this chapter.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 9.)

§ 34-40-10. Reasons for rejection, revocation or suspension of license.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

The board may refuse to issue a license certificate to any person and, after notice and hearing pursuant to its regulations and rules, may suspend or revoke the license certificate of any person who has done any of the following:

(1) Practiced athletic training other than under the direction or referral, or both, of a physician licensed to practice medicine or surgery.

(2) Uses drugs or intoxicating liquors to an extent which affects professional competency.

(3) Obtained or attempted to obtain a license by fraud or deception.

(4) Been grossly negligent in the practice of athletic training.

(5) Been adjudged mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(6) Been guilty of conduct detrimental to the best interest of the public.

(7) Has been imprisoned for violating any state or federal controlled substance law.

(8) Treated or undertaken to treat human ailments otherwise than by athletic training and according to standards established by the board.

(9) Advertised unethically according to standards as set by the board.

(10) Failed or refused to obey any lawful order or regulation of the board.

(11) Unlawful invasion of the field of practice of any other profession.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 10.)

§ 34-40-11. Hearing upon application or filing of charges; procedure; appeal.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

(a) Any person whose application for a license is denied is entitled to a hearing before the board if the person submits a written request to the board. Proceedings for revocation or suspension of a license shall be commenced by filing charges with the board in writing and under oath. The charges may be made by any person or persons. The secretary shall fix a time and place for a hearing and shall cause a written copy of the charges or reason for denial of a license, together with a notice of the time and place

fixed for hearing to be served on the applicant requesting the hearing or the licensee against whom the charges have been filed at least 20 days prior to the date set for the hearing. Service of charges and notice of hearing may be given by certified mail to the last known address of the licensee or applicant. At the hearing, the applicant or licensee has the right to appear either personally or by counsel, or both, to produce witnesses, to have subpoenas issued by the board, and to cross-examine the opposing or adverse witnesses. The board is not bound by the strict rules of procedure or by the laws of evidence in the conduct of the proceedings, but the determination shall be founded upon sufficient legal evidence to sustain it. The board shall determine the charges on their merits and enter an order in a permanent record setting forth the findings of fact and law, and the action taken. On application, the board may reissue a license to a person whose license has been cancelled or revoked, but the application may not be made prior to the expiration of a period of six months after the order of cancellation or revocation has become final; and the application shall be made in the manner and form as the board may require.

(b) A person whose application for a license has been refused or whose license has been cancelled, revoked, or suspended by the board may take an appeal, within 30 days after the order is entered in the judicial circuit of his or her residence or in the Montgomery County Circuit Court, to any court of competent jurisdiction.

(c) Appeal from the judgment of the court lies as in other civil cases.
(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 11.)

§ 34-40-12. Punishment for violation.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter is guilty of a Class B misdemeanor, and, upon conviction, shall be punished and fined, or both, as provided by law.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 12.)

§ 34-40-13. Use of title authorized.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

Any person who holds a license pursuant to this chapter as an athletic trainer may use the words "athletic trainer" or "licensed athletic trainer," and may use the letters "LAT" in connection with his or her name to denote his or her licensure as an athletic trainer.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 13.)

§ 34-40-14. Athletic Trainers Fund created; expenditure of funds.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a fund to be known as the Athletic

Trainers Fund. All receipts of the Alabama Athletic Trainers Board shall be deposited into this fund. The expenses incurred by the Alabama Athletic Trainers Board in carrying out the provisions of this chapter shall be paid out of the Athletic Trainers Fund by warrant of the Comptroller upon the Treasurer upon itemized vouchers, approved by the chair of the board or his or her designee. The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers may make grants, and to otherwise arrange with qualified individuals, institutions, or agencies to develop and promote athletic training programs and continuing education programs for athletic trainers. No funds shall be withdrawn or expended except as budgeted and allotted according to Sections 41-4-80 to 41-4-96 and Sections 41-19-1 to 41-19-12, inclusive, and only in amounts as stipulated in the general appropriations act or other appropriations acts.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 14; Acts 1997, No. 97-597, p. 1051, § 1.)

§ 34-40-15. Unauthorized activities.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

Nothing in this chapter shall authorize an athletic trainer or apprentice athletic trainer to engage in the practice of medicine; to diagnose, treat, or cure any human disease, illness, ailment, infirmity, pain, or other condition which is not an athletic injury; to perform surgery of any type or description; or to prescribe any drug or medical device.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 16.)

§ 34-40-16. Supervision required in physical therapy clinic.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

An athletic trainer employed in a physical therapy clinic shall work under the supervision of a licensed physical therapist in the context of an employer/employee relationship in accordance with physician supervision of the athletic trainer.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 17.)

§ 34-40-17. Sunset provision.

Current through End of 2007 Regular Session.

The Alabama Board of Athletic Trainers is subject to the provisions of the Alabama Sunset Law of 1981, shall be classified an enumerated agency under Section 41-20-3, and shall terminate on October 1, 1997, unless continued as therein provided. If continued, the board shall be reviewed every four years thereafter and terminated unless continued by the law.

(Acts 1993, No. 93-617, p. 1013, § 18.)

BOARD MEMBERS



STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS
Post Office Box 11477
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

July 23, 2008

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Detavious Smith
AL Department of Public Examiners
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Mr. Smith:

The list of Board members you requested is below:

BOARD MEMBERS w/ RESIDENTIAL ADDRESSES

William H. McDonald, Chairman, ATC

Residential Address: 12289 Lester Taylor Road
Northport, AL 35475
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2001
Re-elected twice
Term Expires: 12-31-2008

James L. Jones, Vice Chairman, ATC (B)

Residential Address: 150 Gardenside Drive
Alabaster, AL 35007
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2002
Filled unexpired term of K. Jackson
Re-elected twice
Term Expires: 12-31-2010

M. Alan Spooner, Secretary, ATC/PT

Residential Address: 1825 Mountain Woods Place
Birmingham, AL 35216
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2004
Re-elected
Term Expires: 12-31-2011

Craig Buettner, MD

Residential Address: 2908 Harbor Ridge Way
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2004
Reappointed
Term Expires: 12-31-2011

Tracy Ray, MD

Residential Address: 2539 Willowbrook Circle
Birmingham, AL 35242
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2007
(filled unexpired term of Dr. Melissa Black)
Term Expires: 12-31-2008

Johnny Scott, MD (B)

Residential Address: 3526 York Street
Birmingham, AL 35242
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2007
Term Expires: 12-31-2010

Bradley Montgomery, ATC

Residential Address: UWA Station 14
Livingston, Alabama 35470
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2003
(Board service as President of ALATA)
Term Expired: 12-31-2006
Re-elected: 1-1-2008
(This term is a regular term as elected by ALATA)
Term Expires: 12-31-2011

Valda H. Montgomery, ATC (B)

Residential Address: 430 Seminole Drive
Montgomery, Alabama 36117
Initial Appointment: 1-1-1998
Re-elected twice
Term Expires: 12-31-2009

(continued)

Telephone: (334) 264-1929

Toll Free: (877) 271-3399

Facsimile: (334) 262-2663

Mr. Detavious Smith
July 23, 2008
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Jake Shaw, ATC/PT

Residential Address: 1030 Gregory Glen Road
Opelika, AL 36801
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2006
Term Expires: 12-31-2009

Heloise Jones, ATC (ALATA)

Residential Address: 8439 Shoreside Lane
Bessemer, AL 35022
Initial Appointment: 1-1-2007
Term Expires: 12-31-2009

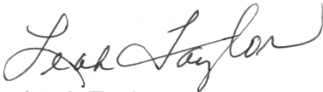
RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS OF AGENCY HEAD

Leah Taylor, Executive Secretary

260 Carolina Court
Montgomery, AL 36117

If you require additional information, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Leah Taylor
Executive Secretary

RESPONSE TO SIGNIFICANT ITEMS



STATE OF ALABAMA
BOARD OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS
Post Office Box 11477
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

September 25, 2008

Mr. John E. Norris
Director, Operational Division
Examiners of Public Accounts
PO Box 302251
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Mr. Norris:

In response to your letter dated September 16, 2008, concerning your report to the Sunset Committee I offer the following responses:

SIGNIFICANT ITEMS

1. Licensees are concerned about the timeliness of license renewal. In response to our questionnaire, licensees reported sending payment for license renewal in December but not receiving a renewal card until March. The board takes advantage of the 90 grace period offered to licensees and postpones the issuance of renewal licenses in order to review them all at once in February of each year. The ***Code of Alabama 1975***, Section 34-40-5(b) states that, "Any licensee who fails to renew his or her license within 90 days following expiration of the previous license shall be required to file a new application and pay an application fee with the board."

Response: The expiration of licenses for athletic trainers was defined by legislation to be "the last day of December..." as is so stated in the ***Code of Alabama 1975***, Section 34-40-8. The renewal process is administered according to this requirement along with a 90-day grace period provided for in the ***Code of Alabama 1975***, Section 34-40-5(b) cited in your significant item description. I respectfully disagree with the statement that, "The Board takes advantage of the 90 grace period offered to licensees..." The implication is that the Board is using the grace period for its convenience, which is incorrect. The Board is obligated to extend the renewal period 90 days beyond the December 31st deadline for applicants who are tardy in submitting their renewal forms and supporting documents.

The Board's renewal process is structured to be in compliance with the requirements set forth in ***The Code of Alabama 1975***, Sections 34-40-5(b) and 34-40-8. Due to limited funds and staff, the Board is grateful for and dependent upon the commitment and generosity of a volunteer group of experienced athletic trainers who serve as the CEU Review Committee. The renewal timeline and issuance of ID cards/licenses is unavoidable but in no way hinders the athletic trainers' ability to practice during the

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Mr. John Norris
September 25, 2008
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grace period. Renewal information is disseminated to licensees in early-to-mid October. Applications for renewal begin to arrive in December, with the majority arriving late in the month or early in January. The Executive Secretary of the Board collects the renewal applications and fees, reviews them for completeness, and updates the Board's information of record on each licensee submitting a renewal application.

The Board is staffed by only one part-time contract employee who serves as Executive Secretary, so there are no other staff people to assist in the review of the applications nor assess the acceptability of the required continuing education. Due to this situation the Board has historically assembled a Renewal/CEU Committee in February made up of licensed and full-time practicing athletic trainers from various parts of the State who meet in Birmingham and volunteer an entire day to review the 400+ applications for renewal. This group typically meets in early February rather than earlier because they are deeply immersed in their sports, recruiting activities, and clinic schedules until this time. Although a majority of the renewal applicants are found to have successfully completed and documented the requirements for renewal, many are found to have deficiencies and are so noted.

It is at this point that the applications for renewal are returned to the Executive Secretary for further processing. Deficiency letters are sent to applicants for renewal who did not meet the requirements, and ID cards/licenses are ordered for those who were granted renewal. The production of ID cards/licenses is outsourced due to the absence of in-house staff to produce them. Yes, it may be March before the ID cards/licenses are issued; however, each step in the process is necessary before the ID cards/licenses can be issued. The **Code of Alabama 1975**, Section 34-40-8, states "The successful completion of the annual continuing education program shall be a requisite for the renewal of licenses issued pursuant to this chapter." Those applicants who have to cure deficiencies and/or submit their applications for renewal after the initial CEU review meeting receive their ID cards/licenses at a later date as appropriate. It is important to note that the Executive Secretary routinely provides verbal and written licensure verifications to some of the larger sports medicine clinics as well as other employers who are verifying the licensure status of their athletic trainers during this interim period.

In summary, the Board's renewal process is structured to be in compliance with the requirements set forth in **The Code of Alabama 1975**, Sections 34-40-5(b) and 34-40-8. The Board strives to maximize the use of all resources available in order to provide current licenses to approved renewal applicants in a timely manner. The Board will attempt to better inform the athletic trainers of the anticipated timeline when the renewal materials are disseminated in October.

Mr. John Norris
September 25, 2008
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STATUS OF PRIOR FINDINGS

All prior findings and significant items have been resolved, with the following exception.

2. Responses to our questionnaire indicate concern about becoming third party providers for insurance purposes.

This was a significant concern during the last sunset review of the board's operations, and remains so. One of six members who responded to our questionnaire was concerned about the inability of licensees to receive payment from insurance companies as third party providers. Fifteen of the forty-one licensees responding to our questionnaire also expressed this concern.

Response: Third party insurance reimbursement is definitely a concern among athletic trainers. It is not, however, within the Board's scope of authority to act on this matter. The Athletic Trainers Licensure Act, Act No. 93-617, was enacted "To provide for the regulation and licensure of athletic trainers; to provide for an Athletic Trainers' Board; to prescribe civil procedures for appeals; to provide for a fund and for an appropriation; and to prescribe fines and penalties for the violation of this act." The Board serves to protect the public safety, health and welfare by setting and maintaining standards for licensure in the practice of athletic training. Those standards are incorporated in the license, license renewal, and disciplinary requirements developed and applied by the Board, thereby maintaining the integrity of the practice.

Although the Board would likely support the matter, the responsibility for advancing the athletic training profession in the State and changing the law to allow for third party reimbursement lies with the professional association for athletic trainers, Alabama Athletic Trainers Association (ALATA). The Board has written ALATA and informed them of the results of your questionnaires so that their leadership can determine what action on their part is appropriate at this time.

I trust that the responses are acceptable. Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely,



Leah Taylor
Executive Secretary

LT

CC: Mr. William McDonald
Mr. Matt Bledsoe